

Hematite are seen imbedded in a red clayey soil, containing likewise blocks of a quartz-rock, with cavities that are filled with drusie crystals of hyaline quartz, calcedony and other forms of this silicious mineral. The *Sulphuret of Iron* occurs frequently, especially in the talcose slates and argillites of Parr's ridge, but no where in sufficient abundance to render it an object of interest in an economical respect. The *Black oxide of Manganese* has been raised in the vicinity of Brookeville, but does not appear to exist in any abundance. Indications of *Copper* are found in the neighborhood of Barnsville; and at the distance of about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Poolsville in a S. W. direction, excavations have been made remotely in search of this metal. I have advised the proprietor of the land to re-open the shafts, with a view to a better inspection of what appears to be no unfavorable indication of a vein of copper-ore. The shaft which was sunk, also at some remote period, at what is called the *Mush Pot*, on the road between Rockville and Darnestown, was doubtless likewise in search of copper, and not of silver as generally believed, but the indications are very feeble. A specimen of *Galena* was presented to me, said to have been found, on the farm of Mr. Nathan Cook, among the loose rocks on the slope of a hill. I had no success in tracing it to its actual source, nor were any other pieces found, but directions were left to conduct further researches. Ledges of a fine grained yellow *Quartzite* occur in the vicinity of Unity and near Mr. Joseph Bond's Mill, that yield excellent whetstones.

Among the mineral resources of the county, must also be enumerated the well known quarries of beautiful *Freestone*, near the mouth of Seneca, on the estate of Mr. Archibald Lee, which the facilities of transportation by the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal render so extensively available. *Soapstone* of good quality occurs in several places. On the road between Rockville and Georgetown, 7 miles from the latter, Mr. Robert Y. Brent is about to open a quarry and to erect suitable buildings and arrangements for cutting and trimming it. Mr. Joseph Bond, near Snell's Bridge, has a similar intention; and some use has already been made of the Soapstone occurring in the vicinity of Mr. Andrew Clopper's Mill, on the Seneca.

Before concluding the account of the mineral resources of this county, I will call the attention of the people as I have already done that of the inhabitants of the upper parts of Cecil Co. to the use which is made in some sections of our country, of the several varieties of *Talcs*, as well as *Soapstones*, that are now ground into an impalpable powder with whale oil, and largely distributed under the name of *Stone Paints*. *Talcs* well suited for this purpose occur on the road between Darnestown and Rockville, about six miles from the latter place.